

88-321-A
7-171

IN RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE
NW/cor. Edmondson Avenue
and Harlem Lane
(6122 Edmondson Avenue)
1st Election District
1st Councilmanic District
Exxon Company, USA
Petitioner

BEFORE THE
DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER
OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
Case No. 88-321-A

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Petitioner herein requests variances to permit the replacement of an existing non-conforming 184 sq.ft. identification sign and pole with a new 128.02 sq.ft. identification sign and pole for both sides, and additionally, to permit 6 parking spaces in lieu of the required 9 spaces; 2 parking spaces with a 0-foot setback; and 1 parking space with a 5-foot setback from a street right-of-way, all in lieu of the required 8-foot setback, and all as more particularly described on Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

The Petitioner, by Charles Vaughn, Construction & Maintenance Engineer with Exxon Company, USA, appeared, testified and was represented by Counsel. Also appearing on behalf of the Petition was David Wang, an Engineer with Frederick Ward & Associates, Inc. Mary Ginn with the Alliance of Baltimore County Community Councils (ABCs) appeared and testified.

Testimony indicated that the subject site, located at the corner of Edmondson Avenue and Harlem Lane, was previously granted a special exception for a service station in 1960 in Case No. 5043-X. Mr. Vaughn testified that the Petitioner at this time is changing all its signs nationwide to modernize them and promote uniformity across the country. Mr. Vaughn testified that the present non-conforming sign at the subject location is 184 sq.ft. The proposed new sign will consist of 128.02 sq.ft. Mr. Vaughn testified that Exxon signs come in five different sizes. The size of the particular sign chosen for this site was selected as it is one of the smaller sizes Exxon uses, and was, in his opinion, appropriate when taking into consideration the location and visibility of the

subject site. In his opinion, a smaller sign would not provide adequate notice to vehicular traffic.

Mr. Vaughn testified that the parking spaces, as set forth in Petitioner's Exhibit 1, are no different than they have been for many years. However, when the Petition for the sign variance was filed, the Office of Zoning technician noticed that the parking spaces were not in strict compliance with the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) and required the parking variances he requested. Mr. Wang testified that due to the location of the existing improvements and the size of the lot, additional parking spaces cannot be provided nor can they be moved to comply with the 8-foot setback requirement. Mr. Vaughn and Mr. Wang argued that to require strict compliance with either the sign or parking requirements of the B.C.Z.R., would result in unreasonable hardship to the Petitioner as the parking spaces have never created a parking problem in the past.

Subsequent to the hearing, Petitioner's Counsel submitted an affidavit from Eugene F. Hannan, Sr., who stated that he has been employed at the site since 1968 and has been the Dealer for Exxon at this location since 1978. Mr. Hannan states in his affidavit that the parking situation is no different than it has been since 1968 and has not in the past obstructed the traffic flow or overall layout of the station.

Mary Ginn on behalf of the ABCs stated that as a matter of policy, they are opposed to any variances to the Baltimore County sign regulations.

The Petitioner seeks relief from Sections 413.2F, 405.4A6 and 409.2C4, pursuant to Section 307 of the B.C.Z.R.

An area variance may be granted where strict application of the zoning regulations would cause practical difficulty to the Petitioner and his property. McLean v. Soiley, 270 Md. 208 (1973). To prove practical difficulty for an area variance, the Petitioner must meet the following:

- 1) whether strict compliance with requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2) whether the grant would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief; and
- 3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Bd. of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 26 (1974).

It is clear from the testimony that if the variance was granted, such use as proposed would not be contrary to the spirit of the B.C.Z.R. and would not result in substantial detriment to the public good.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, it is clear that a practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship would result if the variances were not granted. It has been established that the requirements from which the Petitioner seeks relief would unduly restrict the use of the land due to the special conditions unique to this particular parcel. In addition, the variances requested will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearings on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the requested variances should be granted.

THE THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this 18th day of March, 1988 that the replacement of an existing non-conforming 184 sq.ft. identification sign and pole with a new 128.02 sq.ft. (total for both sides) identification sign in lieu of the permitted 100 sq.ft., be permitted; and additionally, that 6 parking spaces in lieu of the required 9 spaces; 2 parking spaces with a 0-foot setback; and 1 parking space with a 5 ft. setback from a street right-of-way, all in lieu of the required 8 ft. setback, be approved, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be approved, and

as such, the Petition for Zoning Variance is hereby DENIED, and it is ordered to the following restrictions:

1) The Petitioner may apply for his sign permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at his own risk until such time as the applicable sign permit issues from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioner would be required to return, said property to its original condition.

John W. Natale
John W. Natale, AIA
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County

AMN:bj3

John W. Natale
John W. Natale
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County

ORDER REC'D
FEB 10/19/88

V-171

JST

Description
Exxon Corporation

Beginning at a point on the Northwest Corner of Edmondson Avenue and Harlem Lane and running by a chord with a radius of 116.40' with a length of 82.53', thence North 03°20'09" East 160.74', thence South 89°55'03" East 69.31', thence South 08°16'11" East 119.88', thence by a curve with a radius of 20.00' at a length of 30.14' to the beginning point. Containing 12,430 sq. ft. in the 1st. E.D.

Also known as 6122 Edmondson Avenue.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

TOWSON, MD, Jan. 28, 1988

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper printed and published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., appearing on Jan. 28, 1988.

THE JEFFERSONIAN,
Publisher

NOTICE OF HEARING
The Zoning Commission of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Rules and Regulations, will hold a public hearing on the proposed variance below on the property situated in the County Office Building, located at 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 100, in the City of Baltimore, Maryland as follows:
Case No. 88-321-A
NW/cor. Edmondson Avenue & Harlem Lane (6122 Edmondson Avenue and Harlem Lane)

1st Election District — 1st Councilmanic District
Petitioner: Exxon Company, U.S.A.
David Wang, Frederick Ward & Associates, Inc.
1000 Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014
1000 # 83 a.m.
DATE: CALL #43917
Variance to permit the replacement of an existing non-conforming 184 sq.ft. sign and pole with a new 128.02 sq.ft. sign and pole for both sides. Also to permit 6 parking spaces in lieu of the required 9 spaces; 2 parking spaces with a 0 ft. setback; and 1 parking space with a 5 ft. setback from a street right-of-way, all in lieu of the required 8 ft. setback.

In the event that this Petition is granted, the Petitioner will be issued within the forty (40) day period of the allowed 100 sq.ft. for both sides. Also to permit 6 parking spaces in lieu of the required 9 spaces; 2 parking spaces with a 0 ft. setback; and 1 parking space with a 5 ft. setback from a street right-of-way, all in lieu of the required 8 ft. setback.

J. ROBERT HAINES
Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County
1/25/88 Jan 28

* 6122 Edmondson Ave
171
TO THE ZONING COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE COUNTY:
Petition for Zoning Variance

The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situated in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plan attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a variance to permit the replacement of an existing non-conforming 184 sq.ft. sign and pole with a new 128.02 sq.ft. sign and pole for both sides. Also to permit 6 parking spaces in lieu of the required 9 spaces; 2 parking spaces with a 0 ft. setback; and 1 parking space with a 5 ft. setback from a street right-of-way, all in lieu of the required 8 ft. setback.

1. The variance is necessary for effective advertising.
2. The variance is necessary for compliance with Baltimore County Zoning regulations.
3. The variance is necessary for compliance with State laws.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations.
I, we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting etc. upon filing of this petition and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law for Baltimore County.

I do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition.

Contract Purchaser:
(Type or Print Name)
E. G. Phillips

Signature
E. G. Phillips
President
(Type or Print Name)

Address
11350 McCormick Road
Brent Valley, Maryland 21031
City and State
Signature

Attorney for Petitioner:
(Type or Print Name)
Name, address and phone number of legal owner, contract purchaser or representative to be contacted

David Wang, Frederick Ward Associates
Name
5 S. Main St. Bel Air, MD 21014 (301)879-2090
Address
Phone No.

Attorney's Telephone No.: 23rd

ORDERED By the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, this 23rd day of Jan. 1988 that the subject matter of this petition be advertised, as required by the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, in two newspapers of general circulation throughout Baltimore County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing be had before the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County in Room 106, County Office Building in Towson, Baltimore County, on the 19th day of Feb. 1988, at 9:30 o'clock A.M.

Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County
(over)

March 18, 1988

Anthony J. DiPaura, Esquire
Covoney & Booser, P.A.
614 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Petition for Zoning Variance
NW/cor. Edmondson Avenue and Harlem Lane
(6122 Edmondson Avenue)
1st Election District, 1st Councilmanic District
Case No. 88-321-A

Dear Mr. DiPaura:

Enclosed please find the decision rendered on the above-referenced case. The Petition for Zoning Variance has been Granted, subject to the restriction noted in the attached Order.

In the event the decision rendered is unfavorable to any party, please be advised that any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact this office.

Very truly yours,

John W. Natale
John W. Natale
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County

cc: Mr. David Wang
Frederick Ward & Associates
5 S. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

Ms. Mary Ginn
606 Hornbeam Rd., Towson, MD 21204

People's Counsel

File

\$1000 for 2
Date
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION OF

Office of
PATUXENT
Publishing Company

10750 Little Patuxent Pkwy
Columbia, MD 21044

January 29 1988

NOTICE OF HEARING

was inserted in the following

Calonsville Times Booster Weekly
Arbutus Times Owings Mills Flyer
Reporter Weekly Towson Flyer

weekly newspapers published in Baltimore County, Maryland once a week for 3 successive weeks before the 10 day of February 1988, that is to say, the same was inserted in the issues of

January 28, 1988

PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY
By John W. Natale

Very truly yours,
John W. Natale
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
of Baltimore County

1/25/88

COVAHEY & BOOZER, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
616 BOSLEY AVENUE
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
AREA CODE 301
626-9441

EDWARD C COVAHEY, JR.
F. VERNON BOOZER
MARK S. DEAN
ANTHONY J. DIPAUCA

February 26, 1988

Ann M. Nastarowics
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
County Office Building
110 West Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCES
NW/CORNER EDMONDSON AVENUE AND
HARLEM LANE
(6122 EDMONDSON AVENUE)
FIRST ELECTION DISTRICT -
FIRST COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT,
13TH ELECTION DISTRICT -
FIRST COUNCILMANIC DIST.
PETITIONER: EXXON COMPANY, U.S.A.
CASE NO.: 88-321-A

Dear Mrs. Nastarowics:

Pursuant to your request at the hearing held on February 19, 1988, enclosed please find an Affidavit of the dealer at the above location to support the variance requested for the parking spaces. In addition, you requested confirmation with respect to the ownership of this property. I have been advised by the representatives at Exxon that Exxon Company, U.S.A. is in fact the owner of this property.

Thank you for the opportunity to confirm same subsequent to the hearing.

Very truly yours,
Anthony J. DiPaula
Anthony J. DiPaula

AJD/jab

RECEIVED
MAR 1 1988
ZONING OFFICE

Ann M. Nastarowics
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
February 26, 1988
Page 2

cc: Mary Ginn
The Alliance of Baltimore County
Community Councils, Inc.
Charles Vaughan
Exxon Company, U.S.A.
David S. Wang
Frederick Ward & Assoc.

IN RE:
PETITION FOR VARIANCES
NW/CORNER EDMONDSON AVENUE AND
HARLEM LANE
(6122 EDMONDSON AVENUE)
FIRST ELECTION DISTRICT -
FIRST COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT,
13TH ELECTION DISTRICT -
FIRST COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT -
EXXON COMPANY, U.S.A.
Petitioner

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF BALTIMORE, To Wit:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 27 day of February, 1988, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public, in and for the State and MARY, aforesaid, personally appeared EUGENE F. HANNON, SR., President of West Town Service Center, Inc., and made oath in due form of law that the matters and facts set forth herein are true.

1. That he is competent to be a witness and has personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.
2. That he is the President of West Town Service Center, Inc. who leases from Exxon Company, U.S.A. the Exxon service station located at Edmondson Avenue and Harlem Lane in Baltimore County, Maryland.
3. That he has worked at that site since 1968, was manager of the location from 1971 through 1978 at which time he became the dealer.
4. That during his entire tenure at that location, the station has operated adequately with the six (6) parking spaces provided and to attempt to add any additional spaces would serve only to disrupt the traffic flow and overall layout of the station. Furthermore, he is in

favor of the variance requested to allow the station to continue to operate with the six (6) spaces provided in lieu of the nine (9) which are required under the Zoning Regulations.

Eugene F. Hannon
EUGENE F. HANNON, SR., Affiant

AS WITNESS, My Hand and Notarial Seal.

Dated in baltimore
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: July 1, 1990

The Alliance of Baltimore County Community Councils, Inc.

January, 1988

Mrs. Mary Ginn
606 Horncrest Rd.
Towson, MD 21204

Mrs. KC Turner
618 W. Chesapeake Ave.
Towson, MD 21204

TO: Mary Ginn and KC Turner

I, hereby, ask you, as representatives of ABCs - the Alliance of Baltimore County Community Councils, Inc. - to continue to be present at Baltimore County Zoning Hearings.

As stated many times at its monthly meetings, ABCs opposes any variances of Baltimore County's signing code.

Thank you.

Mary Basso
Mary Basso, President, ABCs

PROTESTANT'S
EXHIBIT 1

88-321

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. J. Robert Haines
TO: Zoning Commissioner
P. David Fields
FROM: Director of Planning and Zoning
Zoning Petition Nos. 88-320-A, 88-321-A,
SUBJECT: 88-322-A, 88-323-A, 88-324-A

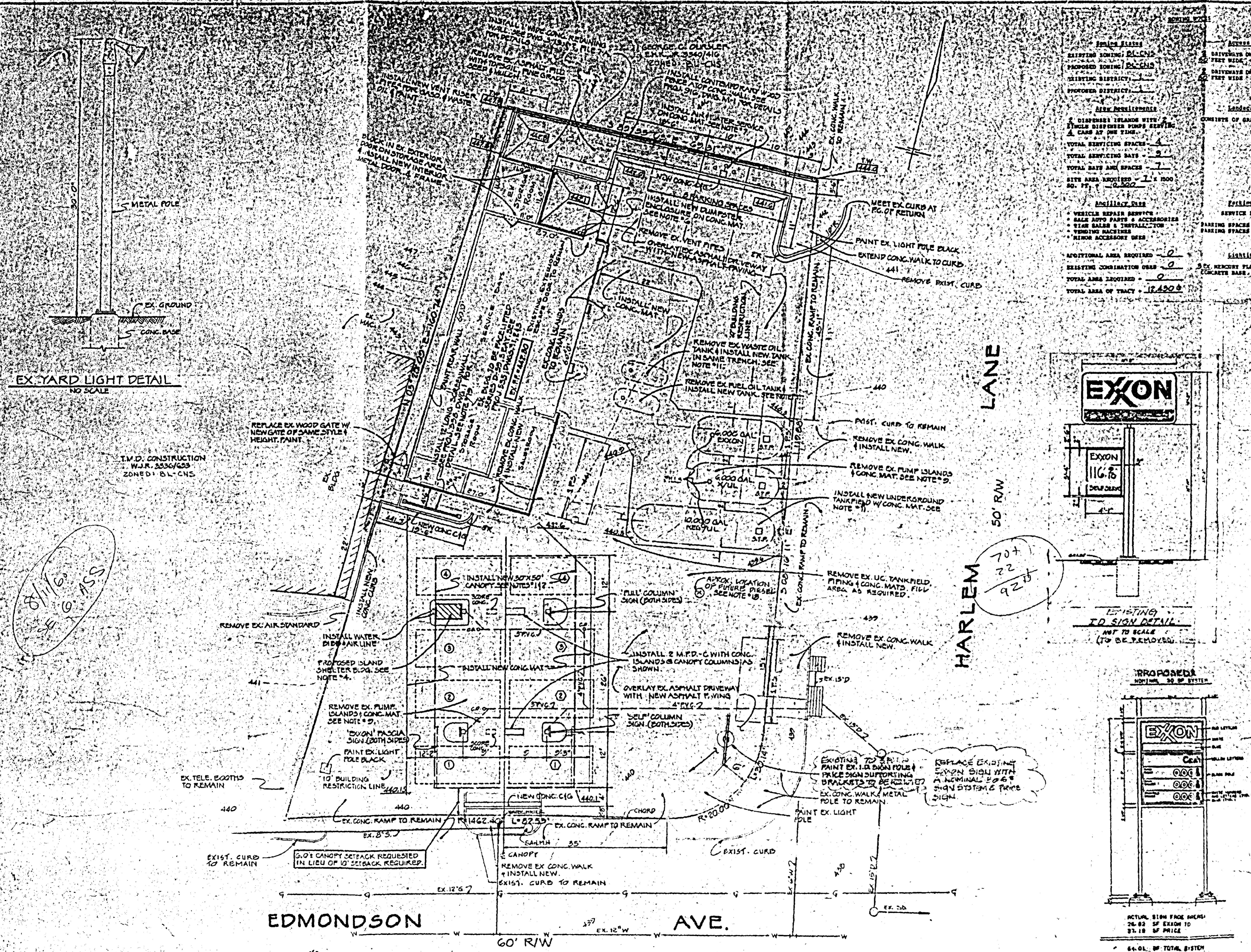
Date: January 14, 1988

Zoning Petition Nos. 88-320-A, 88-321-A, 88-322-A, 88-323-A and 88-324-A are all variances for replacement signs at existing stations. Although no particular sight distance problems exist, the proposed signs are for square footages of approximately 158, 128, 128, 128 and 158, respectively. This office fails to see the need for the excess signage. It recommends that all of the replacement signs be approximately 128 square feet in total area. Therefore, this office is supportive of the granting of petition number 88-321-A, but is opposed to the granting of the remainder.

Finally, this office opposes the 0' setback request for two parking spaces of petition number 88-321-A.

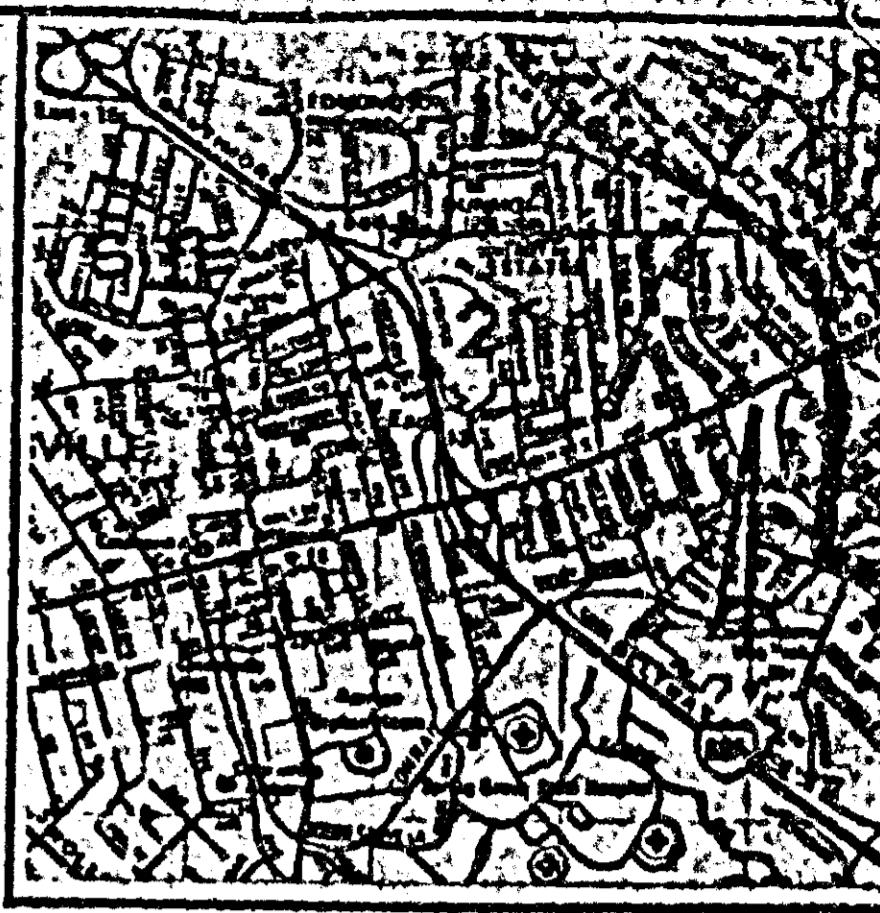
P. David Fields per JCH:dmw
P. David Fields
Director

PDF:JCH:dmw
cc: Ms. Shirley M. Hess, Legal Assistant, People's Counsel
File



PLOT PLAN - ZONING VARIANCE
EDMONDSON AVE. & HARLEM LA.
BALTO. COUNTY, MD.
1ST ELECTION DISTRICT

JULY 1, 1981
PL 21371
RECEIVED
1B-MOD



DRAWN BY	REVISIONS
PLC	1-11-81
CHEKED	
APPROVED	
SCALE	1" = 10'

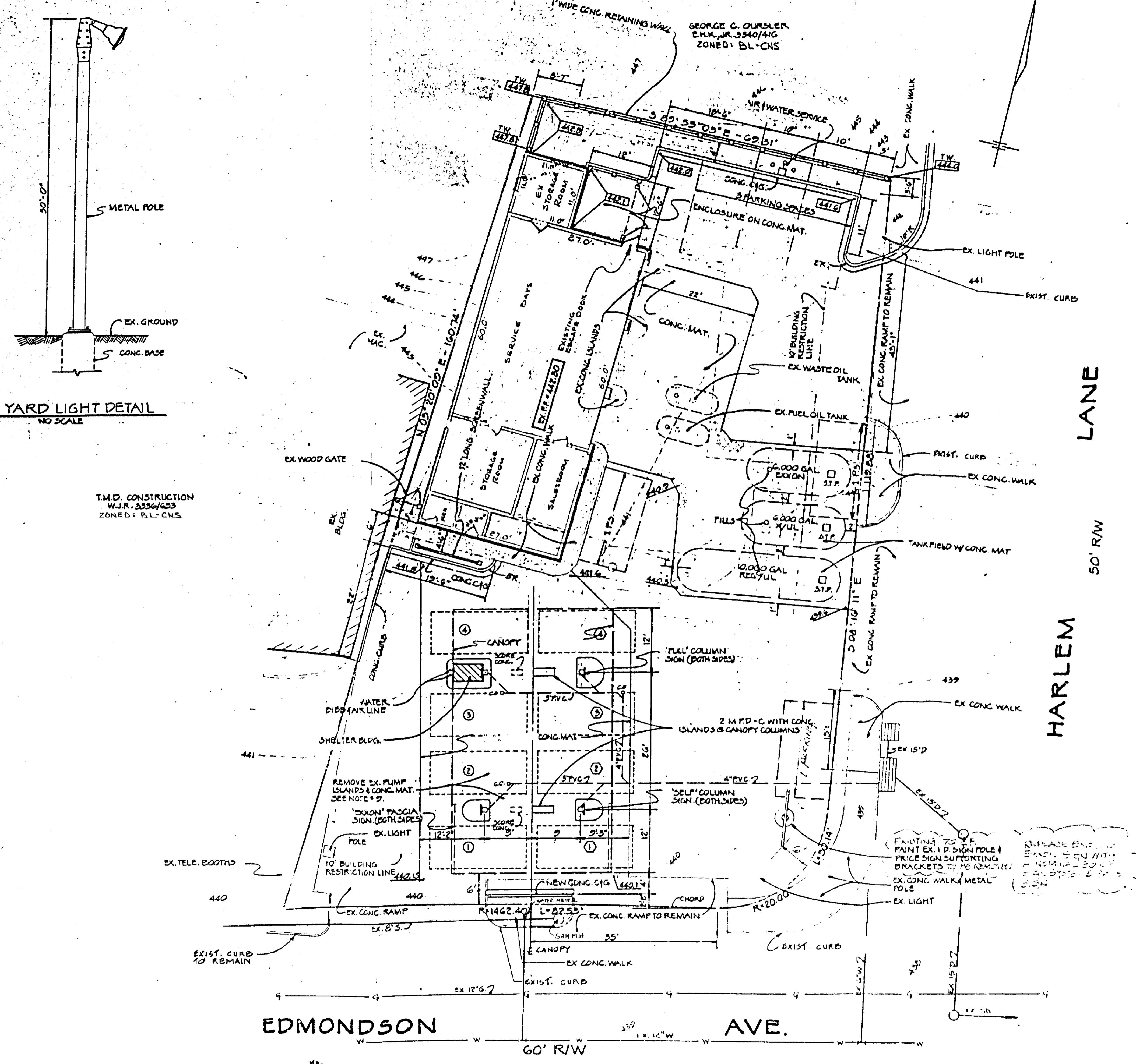
THIS BLUEPRINT IS LOANED TO YOU
AND MUST BE RETURNED WHEN IT HAS
SERVED THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH INTENDED

REVISIONS:
1. Initial Detail & Notes, per MDOT. Co Zoning Let. 11-1-81
2. KEY LAYOUT TO BASS-TEANGER DESIGN. PL.C. 1-27-82
3. KEY LAYOUT TO CONTEMPORARY DESIGN, MOVED AIR/WATER
SERVICE (REV. RETAINING WALL & TANK PILLS) - PL.C. 2-8-82

REVISIONS:

EXON COMPANY, U.S.A.
(A DIVISION OF EXON CORPORATION)
POST OFFICE BOX 1288
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21203

**PROPOSED FACELIFT
W/ ISLAND MOD.**



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AND MUST BE RETURNED WHEN IT HAS
SERVED THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH INTENDED

REVISIONS:

REVISIONS:

EXXON COMPANY, U.S.A.
(A DIVISION OF EXXON CORPORATION)
POST OFFICE BOX 1288
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21203

PROPOSED FACELIFT
W/ ISLAND MOD.

DRAWN BY P.J.C.
CHECKED BY
APPROVED BY
SCALE: 1"=10'

PLOT PLAN - ZONING VARIANCE
EDMONDSON AVE. & HARLEM LA.
BALTO. COUNTY, MD.
1ST ELECTION DISTRICT

DATE 1/15/02
FILE # 21571
SET 1
1B-MOD